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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Devlin, et al.)
Serial No.: 09/827,045)
Filed: April 5, 2001) Group Art Unit: Unknown
For: Method for Automatically Storing and)
Reprocessing Patient Specimens in an)
Automatic Clinical Analyzer)
Atty Docket No.: DCS-9119A)

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Office of Petitions
Box DAC

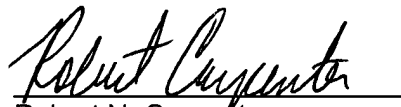
RECEIVED
OCT 22 2002
OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed for the above-referenced application the following, 1) Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(3) for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for priority (3ccs,2pgs); 2) Preliminary Amendment (1cc,3pg); 3) and a Return Postcard.

Applicants believe no further payments are due. However if any fee is due, please charge the fee or any additional amount required to our Deposit Account No. 04-0010.

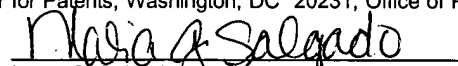
Respectfully submitted,


Robert N. Carpenter
Registration No. 40,409
Attorney for Applicant

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, Office of Petitions, Box DAC, on this 14 day of October 2002.


Maria G. Salgado